

Cabinet

13 April 2015

Present: N Redfearn (Elected Mayor) (in the Chair)
Councillors CA Burdis, EN Darke, R Glendon, I Grayson,
F Lott, JLL Harrison, LA Spillard and JJ Stirling.

In Attendance: L Allan (Deputy Young Mayor)
M Almond (Voluntary and Community Sector)
R Layton (North Tyneside JTUC)
L Young Murphy (North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning
Group)

CAB165/04/15 Elected Mayor's Opening Remarks

The Mayor welcomed L Allen and L Young Murphy to the meeting.

The Mayor informed Cabinet that P Fleming, Traffic and Capital Projects Team Leader for Capita, would shortly be leaving to take up a position with South Tyneside Council. She wished him all the very best for the future.

The Mayor also informed Cabinet that Councillor F Lott was standing down from his position as Cabinet Member for Environment at the end of the Municipal Year. Councillor Lott would be continuing as a Ward Councillor.

She thanked him for his hard work and support during his time in the position and wished well for the future.

CAB165/04/15 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor CB Pickard, A Armstrong (Young Mayor) and M Cushlow (North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group)

CAB166/04/15 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.

CAB167/04/15 Minutes

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2015 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

CAB168/04/15 Report of the Deputy Young Mayor

The Deputy Young Mayor reported on the following activities in which the Young Mayor and/or Young Cabinet Members had been involved:

- meeting with the Children's Council who were very enthusiastic in their support of what the Young Mayor aimed to achieve.
- judging of Show Racism the Red Card National Schools Competition.
- the Deputy Young Mayor had attended the opening of the Old Low Light Heritage Centre in North Shields.

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- The Event music festival auditions had been held. The Event at Segedunum would take place on 4 July 2015.
- Get Up & Go event organised by Connexions.
- Some Young Cabinet Members had attended the Strategic Forum meeting.”
- Some Youth Councillors had attended the Combined Authority Devolution Event.
- A Large number of Youth Councillors & Children in Care Council had attended an O2 Think Big celebration at The Village Hotel. The event had inspired some youth councillors to apply to the next stage of the O2 Think Bigger funding, enabling more young people from the Borough to be involved in projects that benefit them
- Young Cabinet Members had now been selected through an application process. Details would be shared in due course.
- The Young Cabinet had met and started developing its plans for the coming year. These would be reported in future updates.
- The first full Youth Council meeting since the Young Mayor’s election had taken place. Former Young Mayor Allen Oghene had handed over £400, raised for the charity Young Minds.
- Youth Councillors had agreed fundraising for local charities should continue and for 2015/16 support would be given to North Tyneside General Hospital’s Children’s Ward. It had also been agreed that the Age UK bag packs would continue.

The Deputy Young Mayor was thanked for his report and was commended on the work the Young Mayor and Young Cabinet were doing. Elected Mayor requested that her best wishes were conveyed to the Young Mayor who was unwell.

CAB169/04/15 Young Women and STEM – Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Sub-Group Report (All Wards)

Cabinet received a report from the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee in relation to a study into Young Women and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) which had been undertaken by a Sub-Group of the Children, Education and Skills Sub-Committee. Councillor C Davis, a Member of the Sub-Group, was in attendance to present the report.

As part of the Children, Education and Skills Sub-Committee Work Programme for 2014/15, a report on the 14-19 Years Curriculum had been considered on 20 October 2014 (Minute CES20/10/14 refers). This had generated discussion on a number of topics. On 17 November 2014 the Sub-Committee had agreed to establish a Sub-Group to examine how to encourage young women to study STEM. (Minute CES28/11/14 refers).

STEM had been selected because areas of employment growth in the Borough were anticipated within the technical, manufacturing, engineering and digital sectors. It was important that young people had the relevant skills and qualifications in the area to enable them to benefit from the expected employment growth and that these opportunities were taken up by boys and girls. It was considered that the Sub-Group could make a positive contribution to the formulation of future plans or strategies and would allow for community involvement.

The remit of the Sub Group was to examine the attempts at increasing the numbers of girls and young women studying STEM subjects; to consider the success of these attempts; and to consider other actions which could also increase the numbers of girls and young women studying STEM subjects.

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Members held a series of evidence gathering meetings with representatives from organisations and schools and also spoke to some young women studying STEM subjects at GCSE and AS Level and as apprentices.

As a result of the study the Sub-Group had identified six recommendations for submission to Cabinet which were:

1. Cabinet requests the Head of Children, Young People and Learning to organise a programme of events/resources for teachers, particularly for teachers of Years 7 to 9, with up to date information on what opportunities and careers can be expected by anyone with STEM qualifications and an understanding of how to access these, including the vocational route.
2. Cabinet requests the Head of Children, Young People and Learning to ask all schools to review existing information for parents of children aged 11-14 to provide increased focus upon what opportunities and careers can be expected by anyone with STEM qualifications, but particularly for women, and an understanding of how to access these, including the vocational route.
3. Cabinet requests the Head of Children, Young People and Learning to ask each school in the borough to assign the responsibility for promoting STEM to a named member of staff and a governor. These people will have the responsibility to promote STEM as a subject and particularly focus on ensuring the participation of girls and young women.
4. Cabinet requests the Head of Children, Young People and Learning to improve the existing school and local authority STEM network for the STEM leads/co-ordinators and ensure it meets regularly to share practice, co-ordinate ideas and organise regular events.
5. Cabinet requests the Head of Children, Young People and Learning to ask all schools to consider holding girl only science, maths and IT clubs or if this is unfeasible advertise the girls only clubs which are held elsewhere.
6. Cabinet requests the Head of Children, Young People and Learning considers what support and advice would need to be offered to all middle/secondary schools to enable them to pilot single sex classes for STEM subjects and to explore these options at a meeting of the STEM Network.

The full report which outlined the key findings, conclusions and recommendations of the review was attached at Appendix 1. With regard to recommendation 3, relating to assigning the responsibility for promoting STEM to a named member of staff and a governor, the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee had been minded that it would be appropriate if the responsibility was assigned to a female member of staff or governor where possible and Cabinet were requested to take this suggestion into consideration when determining their response.

Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee felt that the recommendations set out in the report would begin to break down the barriers that girls and young women faced which would lead to an increase in participation in STEM subjects by girls and young women. This in itself would break down more barriers and encourage more girls to do the same until women studying and being interested in STEM subjects was not seen as noteworthy.

After the first meeting of the Sub Group it was clear that the subject of STEM and young women's engagement with it was a very wide reaching and complicated area of investigation. The Sub Group had restricted their formal recommendations to the questions posed in their original remit but wanted to request that further consideration be given to the following:

- a) STEM Hubs for each tier (primary, secondary and higher) created at schools with the facilities to be used by all schools in the Borough. There are already excellent facilities in the borough at Marden High School and Norham High School and these will be added to by the STEM Innovation Centre being established by TyneMet College at the former Skills and Enterprise Centre on Embleton Road. Having a place to go to do STEM events and meet others will be a great motivating factor for young people and allows all to have the opportunity to use the best equipment.
- b) An evaluation of the information available in careers' libraries and the understanding of those giving careers advice of the current and future possibilities that STEM subjects open up for students.
- c) Working with the North Tyneside Learning Trust to ensure a co-ordinated approach is essential and their role engaging with the business sectors should be used to its full potential.

Cabinet was asked to consider the recommendations and was required to provide a response to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee within 2 months.

The Mayor thanked the Committee for the report and looked forward to providing a detailed response to Cabinet.

Resolved that the report of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee be noted and a detailed response to the recommendations be provided at a future Cabinet meeting, no later than June 2015.

(Reason for decision – Cabinet has a statutory duty to respond to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee's recommendations within 2 months of receiving them.)

CAB170/04/15 Public Rights of Way – Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Sub-Group Report (All Wards)

Cabinet received a report from the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee in relation to a study into Public Rights of Way which had been undertaken by a Sub-Group of the Environment Sub-Committee.

As part of the Environment Sub-committee work programme for 2014/15, a report on Public Rights of Way and the implications of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 had been considered 10 September 2014 (Minute E12/09/14 refers). The Sub-Committee agreed to establish a Sub-Group to examine the systems in place to ensure that all Public Rights of Way were recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement, the legal record of the existence of a Public Right of Way.

This topic had been selected as the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 had introduced a cut off date where all Public Rights of Way which existed prior to 1949 that are not recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement (the legal record of the existence of the right of way) would be extinguished and lost forever. Members were concerned that Public Rights of Way were an important resource for residents and visitors and needed to be protected and properly maintained. It was considered that the Sub-Group could make a positive contribution to the formulation of future plans or strategies and would allow for community involvement.

The remit of the Sub Group had been to review the current situation in relation to the recording of the Public Rights of Way on the Definitive Map and Statement, to assess the implications of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and to examine the options for the maintenance and future maintenance of Public Rights of Way.

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A series of evidence gathering meetings had been held with officers and representatives from user organisations and also examined the information available for walkers, cyclists, horse riders and landowners on various local authority websites.

As a result of the study the Sub-Group has identified six recommendations for submission to Cabinet which were:

1. That a Rights of Way Sub-group be set up to engage with residents and user groups and to monitor the recording of the Rights of Way on the Definitive Map and Statement.
2. That Cabinet be requested to arrange for the 4 Definitive Maps and Statements which cover North Tyneside to be reviewed, updated and combined into one North Tyneside Definitive Map and Statement within 18 months.
3. That Cabinet be requested to arrange for the inclusion of the existing unrecorded rights of way on Council owned land on to the Definitive Map and Statement within 24 months.
4. That Cabinet be requested to develop a timetable and work programme that will ensure that all existing unrecorded Rights of Way are added to the Definitive Map and Statement before the 31 December 2025.
5. That Cabinet be requested to ensure that, in line with best practice, the current and up to date Definitive Map and Statement is made available on the Authority's website along with information for walkers, horse riders, and cyclists, landowners and developers. The website should also include a facility for claiming new or modifying existing rights of way and for users to report issues on the rights of way network.
6. That Cabinet be requested to ensure that a corporate approach (including Planning, Highways, Tourism and Public Health) to the maintenance, preservation and promotion of the Public Rights of Way is adopted.

The full report which outlines the key findings, conclusions and recommendations of the review is attached at Appendix 1.

Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee felt that accepting the recommendations would ensure that all public rights of way were recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement, the legal record of the existence of such a right of way, and would not be lost in the future. This would allow and encourage residents and visitors to make more use of the rights of way network. The corporate approach would also allow the authority to ensure that public rights of way were taken into consideration when developing and refreshing various plans and strategies such as the Local Plan and Green Space Strategy.

Cabinet was asked to consider the recommendations and was required to provide a response to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee within 2 months.

The Mayor thanked the Committee for the report and looked forward to providing a detailed response to Cabinet.

Resolved that the report of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee be noted and a detailed response to the recommendations be provided at a future Cabinet meeting, no later than June 2015.

(Reason for decision – Cabinet has a statutory duty to respond to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee's recommendations within 2 months of receiving them.)

CAB171/04/15 Local Authority Declaration on Alcohol (All Wards)

Cabinet considered a report which gave an overview of the development and purpose of the Local Government Alcohol Declaration and sought approval to the signing of the Local Government Alcohol Declaration.

While many people enjoyed drinking alcohol safely and sensibly the harm caused by alcohol was extensive. Every year in North Tyneside, there were around one hundred alcohol specific deaths, two thousand alcohol related hospital admissions, around four hundred alcohol related violent crimes and thousands of work related absences linked to drinking alcohol. It was a problem that cut across the entire population and communities.

Alcohol impacted upon a range of frontline services, including the NHS, Northumbria Police, the North East Ambulance Service, local authority licensing teams and social care services. It impacted upon the workplace, through lost productivity and absenteeism and on education, through truancy and disruption.

The personal, social and economic cost of alcohol had been estimated to be over £83m for North Tyneside. Alcohol harm presented a significant financial burden across the North East economy as a whole. The total cost for the North East was estimated at £1.1 billion per year. In terms of North Tyneside the estimated costs were; NHS £22.72m; Crime £15.71m; Workplace £35.08m; Social Care £10.02m.

In addition to the financial impact around 50% of violent crimes and domestic violence incidents were committed under the influence of alcohol. 20% of all violent crime occurred in or near pubs and clubs and 45% of adults avoided town centres at night because of drunken behaviour.

The North East Local Government Declaration on Alcohol was in response to the ongoing damage that alcohol did to local communities. It was a pledge to take action and a statement about each local authority's commitment to protecting their local community from the harm caused by alcohol.

The declaration had been initiated following a meeting of the North East Directors of Public Health Group following a conference hosted by BALANCE the North East Office for Alcohol in November 2013. BALANCE sought to encourage people to reduce their alcohol consumption and reduce the impact that alcohol was having on the region and lobbied government on alcohol related issues. Whilst the Declaration was intended as a regional statement of intent it had been led by collaboration between Gateshead Council and the regional alcohol office of BALANCE.

The goal of the Declaration was to demonstrate local authority leadership on tackling alcohol harm and to make a collective statement about the importance of this issue nationally. The commitments set out in the declaration would result in action across the system to address the harm that alcohol caused.

The declaration had been considered at the regional Chief Executives' meeting on 16 January 2015. Feedback had included the need to consider whether the declaration could be used more widely across the system to include NHS organisations and the Police Authority. Further to this a question had been asked regarding what more could be done in the lead up to the election to influence party manifestos particularly through the work of the region's MPs.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to agree the recommendations as set out in section 1.2 of the report, or alternatively to disagree with the proposals.

Resolved that approval be given to sign the Local Government Alcohol Declaration.

(Reason for decision – It demonstrates the Authority’s leadership and commitment to tackling alcohol related harm in North Tyneside in order to secure the health, welfare, social, economic and environmental benefits that come from reducing excessive alcohol consumption.)

CAB172/04/15 Meeting Eligible Social Care and Carer Needs Policy (All Wards)

Cabinet considered a report which requested approval of the new Adult Social Care “Meeting Eligible Social Care and Carer Needs Policy”.

The Care Act 2014, which came into force on 1 April 2015, represented the biggest single change to Social Care legislation and guidance in sixty years. Since 2003 the Fair Access to Care Services policy directive had applied to Adults with Care and Support needs. Within the policy Councils were allowed to set the threshold at which they would meet Adults’ eligible needs; in North Tyneside the threshold had been set at Substantial and Critical needs, in line with the majority of other Local Authorities.

In term of the delivery of the Care Act requirements, the Authority’s Eligibility Policy had to be revised in light of the new National Eligibility Criteria which were now set out in Regulations; this was because the existing Legislation and Guidance would be replaced by the Care Act 2014. As there was no longer any discretion in terms of the level of need that Authorities would meet, the policy had been revised to explain how the Authority would meet eligible needs, as opposed to describing the threshold of eligibility.

In this context eligibility should be viewed as a status, eligible or not eligible. Importantly the Authority retained discretion in terms of how needs may be met (but not whether they are met). The policy should be read in conjunction with the Care Act 2014, the supporting Regulations to that Act and the Statutory Guidance, and alongside the North Tyneside Practice Guidance that had been developed in preparation for the implementation of the Care Act 2014. The Policy had also been developed in line with the Our North Tyneside Plan (Our People) and the Authority’s Creating a Brighter Future Together programme, and reflected Cabinet’s agreed approach to managing demand and encouraging customers to be more independent.

The Care Act 2014 introduced a single National Eligibility Criteria for social care needs which all Authorities in England must meet. There was a three part test:

- Needs arising from physical or mental health/illness
- Inability to achieve two of a range of outcomes
- As a consequence there is (or is likely to be) a significant impact on the Adult’s wellbeing

Wellbeing had been given a broader (but not exhaustive) description in the Statutory Guidance, and it was identified that Adults with care and support needs were best placed to determine their own wellbeing. “Significant” had been given its everyday meaning, and in considering the *significance* of the impact on the individual’s wellbeing, the Authority would need to take account of all of the individuals it provides support to, and could take its own resources into consideration.

The Care Act 2014 introduced new rights for Carers, including, for the first time, the right for Carers to request support in their own right; putting them on the same legal footing as the people they cared for.

Section 8.1 of the policy detailed the guiding principles of the approach to meeting needs.

It explained that the Authority took a stepped approach to meeting needs; although it was not necessary to rigorously move through all of the steps, it was necessary to demonstrate why needs could not be met by a solution outlined in one of the earlier stages. The earlier stages of the stepped approach demonstrated that Adults with care and support needs would be encouraged to access self help/support in the first instance, and that all efforts would be made to meet an Adult's needs via the use of "universally available support", before the use of a personal budget was considered.

The Care Act 2014 sets out a number of ways in which an Adult's needs might be met, including through the provision of universally available support: It also gave a clear directive to Local Authorities and their Partners in terms of integration, and gave the Local Authority the power to require their partners to cooperate (and vice versa). It also provided some greater definition in terms of what constituted "social care", and therefore by definition, what did not. It also reinforced that Local Authorities could not act beyond their powers, in terms of providing health care.

The Care Act provided a directive for NHS and Social Care partners to work together to ensure the most appropriate use of resources in meeting Adult's needs in a seamless way. In North Tyneside the Local Authority and CCG operated a Shared Care Panel, where discussions regarding those people whose needs straddled health and social care, could be discussed.

The Care Act 2014 and associated Statutory Guidance, required that Authorities made available their Resource Allocation Systems (RAS). The RAS was the system by which resources (money) was allocated to Adults and Carers with eligible assessed needs; the RAS would only be applied once it was identified that the Adult's needs could not be met through accessing universally available support. North Tyneside had operated the current RAS since 2010 (with the current price point being set in 2012), and the details of the development and calculation of the RAS were included within the policy; therefore little change was anticipated.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1 – accept the Policy and agree its implementation.

Option 2 – reject the Policy and request that further work is done.

Option 3 – decide not to have a Policy outlining the Local Authority's approach to meeting eligible needs.

Resolved that the implementation of the new Meeting Eligible Social Care and Carer Needs Policy, be approved.

(Reason for decision – The Care Act 2014 has repealed the FACS guidance and therefore the previous policy is no longer fit for purpose; There is no longer discretion for the Authority to determine the threshold of needs it will meet; There is discretion for the Authority to determine its approach to meeting eligible needs; Therefore whilst there is no requirement to have an eligibility policy, (as eligibility is now defined in law), the lack of a policy which describes the Authority's approach to meeting eligible needs, could leave the Authority open to legal challenge; The policy will promote a consistent approach to meeting eligible needs, across the social work teams; The policy has been developed to support the Creating a Brighter Future Together programme, in that it encourages self support/guided support and access to universally available resources, before the allocation of a Personal Budget is considered; The policy will support the Authority's aims in terms of managing demand, whilst ensuring that the most vulnerable members of society are safeguarded and cared for; and The Care Act 2014 requires that the Authority makes available its RAS system and calculation and the policy meets this requirement.)

CAB173/04/15 Response to the Library Study Group Recommendations (All Wards)

Cabinet considered a report which set out suggested responses to the recommendations of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee on its Review of Library Provision in the Borough.

The Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee, as part of its 2014/15 Work Programme had prioritised reviewing Library provision as an important issue. Through the Culture and Leisure Sub Committee a Sub-Group had been established to carry out an in-depth review. Cabinet had received the recommendations of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee's Library Provision Review at its meeting on 9 February 2015 (Minute CAB141/02/15 refers).

The Public Libraries & Museums Act 1964, made public library services a statutory duty for local authorities, stating that Authorities must:

- Provide a comprehensive and efficient library service for all persons in the area that want to make use of it.
- Lend books and other printed material free of charge for those who live, work or study in the area.

Members of the Sub Committee had agreed the focus of the study was to consider the future approach of the Authority to meet its obligation to provide a Library Service.

The Sub-Group had considered future service provision in the context of:

- A shrinking financial envelope to meet service delivery;
- The wider review of Authority accommodation and its use;
- Changing patterns of consumer behaviour in relation to print and published media; and
- Greater expectations for partnership working arising from the change programme.

The Sub-Group had identified six recommendations in its report.

The proposed responses to the recommendations were detailed in Appendix A of the report.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to agree the proposed responses to the recommendations of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee, agree some of the proposed responses to the recommendations or reject all of the proposed responses.

Resolved that the proposed responses to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee in relation to the Library Provision Review, be approved.

(Reason for decision – to enable Cabinet's response to the recommendations to be provided within the required two month period.)

CAB174/04/15 Objections Received in Response to a Public Open Space Advert for Land at West Farm Wynd, Longbenton and Church Bank, Wallsend (Longbenton and Wallsend Wards)

A report was submitted which detailed representations made in relation to a statutory advertisement to dispose of public open space at West Farm Wynd, Longbenton, and at Church Bank, Wallsend, in order to facilitate the development of two affordable housing schemes.

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Cabinet was informed that consideration of the representations received in relation to the disposal of public open space at Church Bank Wallsend had been deferred to enable further discussion to take place with those who had made representations.

Cabinet considered representations made in relation to a statutory advertisement to dispose of public open space at West Farm Wynd, Longbenton, in order to facilitate the development of an affordable housing scheme.

The area of land detailed on the plan attached as Appendix 1 to the report was Authority owned and currently accessible by members of the public. It was therefore deemed to be an area of public open space.

The land had previously been declared surplus to requirements in accordance with a recommendation approved by Cabinet on 10 March 2014 (Minute refers).

Planning permission had also recently been granted for the development of the site with affordable homes for rent. Terms and conditions were currently being provisionally negotiated for their proposed disposal to a Registered Provider.

As the land was considered to be public open space it was subject to the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1972. As a result, the Authority had to advertise its intention to dispose of the land in accordance with Section 123 of the Act and formally consider any representations made.

This had to be done by placing Notices advertising the proposed sales for two consecutive weeks in a local newspaper. The Authority's intentions had been advertised in the Journal on 4 March 2015 and 11 March 2015, respectively and in the local weekly News Guardian on 5 March 2015, and 12 March 2015, respectively. The closing date for the receipt of representations had been 26 March 2015.

Prior to expiry of the closing date, a representation had been made from one local resident, who had also made reference to his neighbours having similar concerns. The main points of the representation were:

1. The loss of three existing informal car parking spaces currently used by the residents of nearby properties will result in residents having to park outside of their properties on an already narrow road. This will also cause difficulty for refuse trucks on their collection rounds.
2. Concern regarding the possibility of localised flooding by building over an area of land that currently absorbs rainfall. This particular resident stated that he experienced localised flooding to his own home approximately two years ago.
3. Concern over the location of the access point to the proposed development which residents consider would be better located off the adjacent main road rather than at the end of an existing cul de sac.
4. The loss of an area of land where children can play and residents can walk dogs.

The following information had been supplied by the proposed developer in relation to these points of objection:

1. Consultation was undertaken with the Authority's highway officers to ensure that the scheme is both accessible for the residents and for refuse collections. The proposed developer has therefore ensured that the relevant highway standards have been adhered to.

2. Consultation was undertaken with Northumbrian Water Limited (NWL) and followed NWL'S recommendations for both foul and surface discharge rates. No history of flooding in this area was identified by NWL. The new properties proposed would also be constructed to Code level 3 which will include specialist measures such as flow restrictors, slow flow taps and water butts to help reduce waste water from the properties.
3. To bring an access directly off the adjacent main road would require the need to overcome significant ground level issues and underground service diversion works which would have resulted in a number of retaining walls and easement strips. This would have had a negative impact on the design quality of the development.
4. The Open Space Needs Assessment undertaken as part of the planning process highlighted that there would be no significant loss of public open space in this locality.

A more general comment from the proposed developer confirmed that, one person attended a local resident consultation event about the proposed development, and there was had been no feedback from local residents to consultation letters sent out to the occupiers of surrounding properties.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1 – set aside the objections received in relation to the disposal of public open space at land at West Farm Wynd in Longbenton and allow the disposal of the site to proceed;

Option 2 – uphold the objection received in relation to the disposal of public open space at West Farm Avenue in Longbenton in which case the disposal of this land cannot proceed;

Resolved that the objections received be set aside in relation to the disposal of public open space at West Farm Wynd in Longbenton.

(Reason for decision – To allow the disposal of the land to be actioned and the proposed housing development to proceed.)

CAB164/03/15 Elected Mayor's Closing Remarks

The Mayor thanked Cabinet Members and Officers for the support given to her during the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

CAB165/03/15 Date and Time of Next Meeting

6.00pm on Monday 11 May 2015.

Minutes published on Thursday 16 April 2015.

The decisions contained within these Minutes may be implemented (unless called in by 3 Non-Executive Members for consideration by the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee) immediately following the expiry of the call-in period; i.e. 5.00pm on 23 April 2015.